

Rural District of Hiraethog



ANNUAL

HEALTH REPORT

1959

Medical Officer of Health :

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*TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE HIRAETHOG RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL*

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

The Public Health Inspector and I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Health Report for the year 1959.

We wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for all the assistance we have received during the year and we would thank all the other Officials and members of the staff for their ready assistance at all times.

May I also take this opportunity of congratulating the Public Health Inspector on passing an examination of the Royal Society of Health for the Diploma in Health Engineering.

Yours faithfully,

M. JONES ROBERTS,
Medical Officer of Health.

The Chairmen of the Council during the year were as follows :

January—May, 1959 : Councillor T. W. Jones.

June—December, 1959 : Councillor R. D. Roberts.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

Area of the district	93,097 acres.
Registrar General's estimated population (mid-1959)	5,010
Number of inhabited houses	1,632
Rateable Value (1/4/59)	£42,983
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£167

The estimated population for 1959 was 5,010, the same as in 1958.

DEATHS :

Comparability Factor 0.91

	England and Wales		
	1959	1958	1959
Crude death rate (per 1,000 population) ...	11.6	10.98	9.58
Corrected death rate (per 1,000 population) ...	—	10.71	8.72
Still-birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	0.19	0.19
Still birth-rate (per 1,000 live and still- births)	20.7	10.98	12.35
Maternal mortality rate	0.38	NIL	NIL
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live birth) ...	22.0	10.11	12.50
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)			
Legitimate	—	11.77	13.7
Illegitimate	—	NIL	NIL
Neo natal mortality rate (per 1,000 live births), first four weeks	15.8	11.11	12.50

The following table shows the number of deaths which occurred during the year. The number of deaths which occurred in 1958 is shown in the first column for comparison :

Cause of Death	1958	1959	
	Total	Total	Males Females
Poliomyelitis	—	—	— —
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	—	— —
Tuberculosis—Other	—	—	— —
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	— —
Diphtheria	—	—	— —
Whooping Cough	—	—	— —
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	— —
Measles	—	—	— —
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	— —
Malignant Diseases—			
Stomach	4	4	4 —
Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	— —
Breast	1	1	— 1
Uterus	—	—	— —
Other	4	7	5 2
Total Cancer Deaths	9	12	9 3
Leukaemia	—	—	— —
Diabetes	—	—	— —
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	16	9	4 5
Coronary diseases	6	4	2 2
Hypertension with heart diseases	1	1	— 1
Other heart diseases	11	4	2 2
Other circulatory diseases	1	3	1 2
Influenza	—	—	— —
Pneumonia	1	1	1 —
Bronchitis	3	3	2 1
Other respiratory diseases	—	1	— 1
Ulcer of stomach, etc.	—	—	— —
Gastritis, diarrhoea, etc.	1	—	— —
Nephritis, nephrosis, etc.	—	1	1 —
Prostatic hyperplasia	1	1	1 —
Maternal causes	—	—	— —
Congenital malformations	—	—	— —
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	7	3 4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	1 —
All other accidents	1	—	— —
Suicide	—	—	— —
Homicide	—	—	— —
ALL CAUSES	55	48	27 21

The deaths occurred in the following age groups :

	Total	Males	Females
Under 1 year	1	1	—
1—10 years	1	1	—
10—20 years	1	1	—
20—30 years	—	—	—
30—40 years	1	—	1
40—50 years	2	1	1
50—60 years	3	2	1
60—70 years	6	4	2
70—80 years	15	9	6
80—90 years	18	8	10
90 years and over	—	—	—
TOTAL	48	27	21

There were 48 deaths during the year compared with 55 the previous year, giving a death rate of 8.72 compared with 10.71 in 1958. Of these deaths, 39 occurred in persons aged 60 years and over.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis nor from any other infectious disease.

No deaths were due to influenza but one was due to pneumonia, and 3 were due to bronchitis.

Cancer caused 12 deaths compared with 9 the previous year, but none of these were due to cancer of the lung.

Deaths from vascular lesions, lesions of the heart and lesions of the circulatory system totalled 21 compared with 34 the previous year. Of these, 4 were due to coronary diseases compared with 6 in 1958.

There was one accidental death during the year compared with 2 the previous year. This was a motor vehicle accident.

STILL-BIRTHS.

The Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births) was 12.35 compared with 10.98 for England and Wales. The actual number of still-births was 1.

INFANT DEATHS.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 12.50 compared with 10.11 for 1958 and 22.0 for England and Wales. The actual number of infant deaths was 1.

This death was in a male child aged 3 hours and occurred in hospital. The cause of death was 1(a) Cerebral damage, (b) Breech birth (Primipara), and 2, Pre-maturity. Death appears to have been unavoidable.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths during the year, giving a Maternal Mortality Rate of NIL, the same as in 1958, and compared with 0.38 for England and Wales.

BIRTHS.

Comparability Factor 1.15

Actual number of births registered : 4 (1 male and 3 females).

Number of births relating to residents : 80 (35 males and 45 females).

There are no maternity hospitals in the area and mothers are admitted to hospitals in other areas for their confinement.

The births were classified as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	32	41	73
Illegitimate	3	4	7

	England and Wales		
	1959	1958	1959
Crude birth rate (per 1,000 population) ...	16.5	17.74	15.97
Corrected birth rate (per 1,000 population)	—	20.40	18.37
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	—	—	8.75

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified during the year and the general population must not forget that this is due to the fact that children are inoculated against this disease. It is most essential that parents should see that their children have this preventive treatment. The injections are now given in conjunction with those for whooping cough, three injections being given at monthly intervals, commencing when the child is aged 2-3 months. A booster dose is given when the child is 4-5 years, and another at the age of 10 years.

The number immunised against these diseases during the year was as follows :—

Number immunised against whooping cough and diphtheria combined—

Under 5 years 45

Over 5 years 2

Number immunised against diphtheria only—

Under 5 years 3

Booster injections 65

SMALLPOX.

All babies should be vaccinated against smallpox. This is given when the baby is 2-3 months old.

The number of vaccinations carried out during the year was as follows:

Number of primary vaccinations 36

Number of re-vaccinations Nil

POLIOMYELITIS.

The number of children and young adults who have been vaccinated against poliomyelitis is quite good, but one should not be satisfied until this has reached the 100 per cent. mark.

The number of persons who were vaccinated against this disease during the year was as follows :

Number of second injections given 608

Number given booster injections 851

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is to be extended to persons up to the age of 40 years, and other priority groups have been named. Special sessions will be arranged in the evenings for adults. Consent cards for all ages may be obtained from :

Denbigh Clinic ;

Ruthin Clinic ;

Llanrwst Clinic ;

Health Visitors ;

General Practitioners ;

Medical Officer of Health's Office at Denbigh, and

County Medical Officer of Health's Department, Wrexham.

These cards should be completed and sent to the County Medical Officer, County Health Department, 16 Grosvenor Road, Wrexham, and arrangements will then be made for persons to attend at the Clinic nearest to them, or they may attend the family doctor if desired.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No. B.C.G. Vaccinations were carried out during the year apart from the vaccination of contacts who attend the Chest Clinic.

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the rural district during the year.

CARE OF THE AGED.

Section 47. National Assistance Act, 1948.

One aged lady remained in a Home for the Aged under a Court Order until April when she was admitted to the North Wales Counties Hospital, Denbigh.

Several aged people living alone were visited during the year. Most of them lived in isolated houses and found it difficult to give themselves the necessary care and attention. The conditions found at some of the homes were very bad—the house having got into a dirty state due to the fact that the people did not bother to clean them. Food was exposed on the table and the people were unkempt and dirty. In most instances, the Health Visitors were able to arrange for a Home Help to do the cleaning and shopping, and in one or two cases they even assisted with the shopping and bathing these people themselves in their free time. The Welfare Officer gave every co-operation and it was found that no action had to be taken to admit anyone to a Home or Hospital on a Court Order.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1959, arranged in the various age groups. The number of cases notified during 1958 is given in the first column for comparison :—

Notifiable Diseases	AT AGES							
	1958 TOTAL	1959 TOTAL	Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	46—65 years
Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	10	—	5	5	—	—	—
Measles	14	10	5	1	3	1	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	3	—	—	—	—	2	1
Total	21	25	5	6	9	2	2	1

The number of cases of infectious diseases (including tuberculosis) notified during 1959 was 25 compared with 21 cases notified in 1958. Of these, 10 cases were measles (14 cases the previous year).

Ten cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with 3 cases in 1958. Six of these occurred in children attending a school at Llanrwst and 4 occurred in pre-school children residing in a different area.

No cases of food poisoning were notified compared with 1 case the previous year.

One case of dysentery was notified during the year. This case was investigated, but the source of infection was not found. It appears that the child had partaken of a meal outside the area. No further cases were notified.

Four cases of tuberculosis (1 pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary) were notified compared with 3 cases (1 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary) in 1958.

Two other cases of tuberculosis were added to the register during the year in respect of patients who had come to reside in the area. Four cases were removed from the register, two patients having left the area and two died.

The following table shows the number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the beginning and at the end of 1959 :—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Number on register on 1st January, 1959 ...	8	17	1	4	30
Number on register on 31st December, 1959	8	16	3	5	32

Three cases of tuberculosis were admitted to hospitals or sanatoria during the year, but no cases were discharged.

The following table shows the number of inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspector regarding infectious diseases :—

No. of visits re infectious diseases	39
No. of visits re tuberculosis	12
No. of rooms fumigated and disinfected	5
No. of cases where bedding was removed for stoving	Nil
No. of cases where disinfectant was issued	16

The following tabulates the number and nature of inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspector during the year :—

GENERAL SUMMARY :

No. of Visits and Inspections	4995
No. of Complaints received	243
No. of Informal Notices served	197
No. of Statutory Notices served	37

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS :

Visits to Tents, Vans, Sheds	24
„ „ Factories and Workplaces	49
„ „ Bakehouses	8
„ „ Public Conveniences	2
„ „ Licensed Premises	31
Visits re Refuse Collection and Disposal	1810
„ „ Rats and Mice	75
Visits to Schools	40
„ „ Butchers' Shops	27
„ „ Other Shops and Stalls	74
„ „ Sewerage Works	20
Visits re Water Supply	351
„ „ Housing Inspections	450
„ „ Drainage	880
„ „ Infectious Disease	39
„ „ Canteens	27
Visits re Milk Distributors	10
„ „ Milk Sampling	14
Visits to Food Preparing Premises	176
„ „ Ice Cream Premises	26
Miscellaneous Visits	602
Visits re Meat Inspection	260
Total	4995

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

At the commencement of the year the cleansing service of the Council was entirely re-organised. The previous method of collection by two open lorries was dispensed with, and delivery taken of a new 18 cubic yard "Fore and Aft" tipper on a Karrier Gamecock Chassis. In consequence, six of the seven small tips were dispensed with and tipping centralised on the one tip at Pentrefoelas.

After full consideration it was deemed desirable to have three men on the refuse vehicle instead of two as originally planned, and working experience has shown this to be a wise move. Despite its apparent bulk the vehicle has taken all the narrow lanes and roads in the district in its stride, and no difficulty has been experienced.

The revised system of refuse collection is working satisfactorily, and collection takes place regularly each fortnight. This new regularity in collection is welcomed by the ratepayers, as is reflected in the lack of complaints of irregularity and non-collection as compared with the old system. From the public health point of view the present system is considered very satisfactory, and the Council are to be complimented on the purchase of a vehicle, which is not only adequate for the amount of work, but properly covered for the haulage of refuse over long distances. Additionally, the capacity of the vehicle enables it to operate throughout the day with only one visit to the tip at the end of the day. This has proved to save a considerable number of man hours and helps to off-set the rather long haul which has to be made due to operating one vehicle over such a large and scattered district.

As far as the old tips are concerned, these have been properly covered over and handed back to their respective owners. The centralising of the tip at Pentrefoelas has proved satisfactory and it is hoped that the ultimate tipping will help to improve, and indeed re-claim, land. The present tip is to be extended next year.

No. of premises from which refuse is removed	977
Total Cost	£2,105
Cost per premises collected	£2/3/- (approx.)
Mileage per gallon	11.5

NIGHT SOIL COLLECTION.

This unenviable task again had to be continued during the year in the villages of Capel Garmon and Llanddoget. It was, however, possible to discontinue the collection in the hamlet of Nebo—all houses having been connected to the Council's sewer. It is earnestly hoped that the proposed sewerage schemes for the Capel Garmon area will be executed during the coming year, thus enabling the cessation of a further night soil collection. Also the Council's Consulting Engineers are to be instructed to prepare a sewerage scheme for the village of Llanddoget and adjoining hamlet, so it is anticipated that the collection of this area will cease in 1961.

No. of premises collected	62
Cost of Collection	£371
Cost per premises collected	£6 (approx.)

FACTORIES.

There are no large factories in the district but there are 35 premises which can be so classified. Each was inspected and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

FACTORIES : The following indicates work carried out during the year—

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	10	14	3	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	17	31	3	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises)	3	2	4	—	3
TOTAL		29	49	6	—

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found					No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted	M/c line No.
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred		(7)		
				To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	1	1	—	—	—	4	
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	1	—	—	—	—	7	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	9	2	1	1	—	—	9	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	—	—	—	—	10	
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	1	—	—	—	—	12	
TOTAL		5	2	1	—	—		

Nature of Work	SECTION 110			Section 111		Prosecutions
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	
(1)						(7)
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, etc.						
Cleaning and Washing						
Household Linen						
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets						
Curtains and Furniture Hangings						
Furniture and Upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File-making						
Brass and Brass Articles						
Fur Pulling						
Iron and Steel Cables and Chains						
Iron and Steel Anchors and Grapnels						
Cart Gear						
Locks, Latches and Keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial Flowers						
Nets, other than Wire Nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and Tennis Balls						
Paper Bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush-making						
Pea Picking						
Feather Sorting						
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc.						
Stuffed Toys						
Basket-making						
Chocolates and Sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas Stockings, etc.						
Textile Weaving						
Lampshades						

NIL

RODENT CONTROL.

Arrangements for sharing a full-time operator between the Nant Conway Council and the Council functioned satisfactorily during the year.

As previously stated, whilst outwardly rodent control plays only a minor part in the work of a local authority, its importance in the prevention of disease cannot be overlooked—too often rodent control is looked upon purely from the point of view of eradication of vermin which cause destruction and are a source of unpleasantness, whilst overlooking the fact that they are potential disease carriers, both to humans and animals.

The Council make available to all agricultural holdings in the district a system of annual contracts for rodent destruction and this has proved very satisfactory. At the present moment 50 contracts have been made totalling around £200.

Rodent infestation was fairly light during three-quarters of the year, but towards the latter end heavy infestations became apparent and the operator had great difficulty in coping with the work. It is difficult to give an explanation for this as the increase in infestation exceeded that which is to be expected when rodents pass from fields and hedgerows into farm outbuildings as winter approaches.

The Council's properties, especially sewage works, sewers and refuse tips were constantly inspected during the year, and measures taken to eliminate infestation where necessary.

	Local Authority	TYPE OF PROPERTY			Total
		Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	
1. Number of properties in Council's District	16	965	686	276	1943
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :					
(a) Notification	Nil	10	26	11	47
(b) Survey under the Act	15	459	678	205	1357
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	1	11	5	5	22
3. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections ...	64	573	1204	332	2173
4. Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats—Major	6	0	46	7	59
(a) Rats (Minor)	2	7	50	0	59
(b) Mice—Major	3	12	8	9	32
(b) Mice—Minor	2	6	6	2	16
5. Number of infested properties treated by the Council ...	13	25	46	7	91
6. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments ...	46	60	526	65	697
7.—Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act :	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	—	—	—	—	—

FOOD PREMISES.

Much inspection was carried out during the year with regard to food premises, but it is still felt that more time must be given to this matter. Generally conditions have improved considerably, and this is in no small measure due to the fact that the Council have made available a supply of water and a sewerage scheme for most of the villages and hamlets. It is also pleasing to note that general public appear to be more alive and conscious to the necessity for clean food premises and proper handling of food. This is seen in the increased number of complaints received during the year—it is felt that such complaints justifiably made are to be welcomed rather than deprecated. Only by the public becoming inwardly conscious of good hygienic practice relating to food handling, preparation and storage will a satisfactory situation ensue with regard to food hygiene. Conditions relating to sterility as far as food preparation and general handling of the food itself can be of no avail if the counter-hands exercise such practice as failing to wash hands after using toilet accommodation, or licking fore-fingers in handling a piece of paper in which to wrap open food. The public, if they see anything wrong, should have the courage of their convictions and refuse the commodity—after all they have pay for the goods.

The following table relates to the number of food premises in the district, and the inspections carried out during the year :

	No. of Premises	No. of Visits Paid
Shops	54	74
Bakehouses	3	8
Public Houses and Hotels	12	31
Cafes	14	91
School Canteens	12	27
Bed and Breakfast Accommodation	16	9
Vans and Stalls	11	4
Slaughterhouses	2	112
Butchers' Shops	5	27

In the premises inspected 12 have carried out improvements, six being provided with wash-hand basins, and hot and cold water.

(a) SHOPS.

These are small combined shops and dwellings and are mostly family concerns. There are five butchers' shops and three are registered for the manufacture of sausages.

(b) BAKEHOUSES.

The three bakehouses in the district enjoy a good volume of trade, their bread being of excellent quality and taste, especially when compared with the "cotton wool" of the steam loaf. Each is well maintained and they have been well looked after during the year.

(c) ICE CREAM.

There is no ice cream manufactured in the district, but there are thirteen registrations for the sale of the pre-packed product.

(d) UNSOUND FOOD.

The under-mentioned foods were seized during the year as being unfit for human consumption and were disposed of by burying on the Council's refuse tip :—

1 x 12 lb. Cooked Ham (Germany).

1 x 17 lb. Cooked Ham (Germany).

(e) LICENSED PREMISES.

As in the previous year, close liaison was kept with the Licensing Authorities in regard to these premises. All were found to be well maintained but in some improvements were necessary, and four notices for the provision of wash-hand basins and water supply were served. Regarding one of the premises, notice for major work of reconstruction of the drainage system was served.

(f) SCHOOL CANTEENS.

All school canteens were inspected during the year with several revisits. The position in each at the end of the year is given below, with appropriate comments. It is recorded that the handling of food in the canteens and the cleanliness of the staff are very satisfactory, and the canteens are in a very clean condition.

Dinmael.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply via electric geyser to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink, new draining boards, refrigerator, electric stove, electric radiant heater, 2 clothes lockers.

Comments : Premises generally come up to the standard required under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Llangwm.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; clothes locker.

Comments : Canteen rather constricted, but is well lighted and ventilated, and generally measures up to the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Llanfihangel G.M.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; clothes locker.

Comments : Canteen generally comes up to the standard required under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Cerrigydrudion.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; clothes locker ; small ventilated food store.

Comments : Conditions improved by provision of above equipment. Further improvement might be made by closing in of the high open ceiling as at present it is difficult to keep the room clean above a certain height. There is also some degree of dampness to one of the external walls, but it

is understood that this will be attended to. The kitchen range does tend to smoke, especially on first lighting, and in consequence of this the decoration is affected. On the whole conditions are satisfactory.

Glasfryn.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; clothes locker.

Comments : Canteen generally comes up to the standard required under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Capel Garmon.

Provided : Hot water supply to Belfast sink ; refrigerator.

Comments : Wash-hand basin with hot and cold water supply and clothes locker required. Old cold water tank sited in the room should be removed, or alternatively, interior thoroughly cleansed and suitably painted (it is understood from the Education Committee that this is to be done.) The whole of the property, which includes the school, should be connected to a proper drainage system and septic tank installation, and in this manner provide adequate disposal of waste water from canteen, and sanitary accommodation for staff.

Pentrellyncymer.

Provided : Refrigerator ; hot water supply to kitchen sink and wash-hand basins.

Comments : An empty classroom is now used as a cloakroom, and the canteen to all intents and purposes is separately housed. As two wash-hand basins are installed in the canteen kitchen (this room was previously used as a cloakroom), it is felt that it would be superfluous to ask for another wash-hand basin in the room now used as cloakroom ; this equally applies to a clothes locker for the canteen, as the attendant can keep her clothes in the children's cloakroom.

Pentrefoelas.

Provided : Wooden floor removed, filled in and finished in thermo-plastic flooring ; two new Belfast sinks ; wash-hand basin and hot water supply thereto ; refrigerator ; three clothes lockers ; drainage connected to Council's sewer and old septic tank dispensed with.

Comments : High open ceiling makes cleaning of upper parts of walls difficult, but canteen can be said to come up to the standard required under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Llanddoget.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator.

Comments : Decoration soiled due to present coal fire stove, but it is understood that this is to be replaced and canteen re-decorated. No clothes locker provided.

Llangernyw.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; ceiling under-drawn.

Comments : No clothes locker provided. Drainage and sanitary accommodation cannot be regarded as satisfactory, but it is obvious that this cannot be remedied until the Council's sewerage scheme has been executed.

Gwytherin.

Provided : Wash-hand basin ; hot water supply to wash-hand basin and kitchen sink ; refrigerator ; ceiling under-drawn.

Comments: No clothes locker provided, but apart from this the premises are satisfactory.

Pandy Tudur.

Provided : Refrigerator ; hot water supply to kitchen sink.

Comments : Absence of wash-hand basins, but the premises are kept very clean and tidy. It should be pointed out that it is only within the last two months that septic tank drainage has been provided, and it is possible that the Education Committee have been waiting for this to be completed before providing wash-hand basins.

Eglwysbach.

Whilst a refrigerator has been provided, no further improvements have been carried out to the canteen, which is small, constricted, badly lighted and ventilated, and with low ceiling height. I am given to understand that the provision of a new kitchen and canteen is on the priority list of the Education Committee, but that progress is delayed due to difficulty in obtaining land close to the school which will give a natural drainage fall to the sewer. An alternative site is available, but this would mean pumping into the sewer, and naturally the Education Committee wish to avoid this if possible.

(g) MILK.

No dealers are licensed in the district, but two supplementary licences are issued for the sale of Sterilised, Pasteurised and T.T. Milk. There are 35 producer retailers categorised as :—

T.T. Milk Retailers	23
Undesignated Milk Retailers	12

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.

The amount of slaughtering carried out in the two privately-owned slaughter-houses in the district is not heavy.

These two premises were licensed upon the de-centralisation of slaughtering in 1956 but their standard in regard to recent legislation under the Slaughterhouses Act and Slaughterhouses Hygiene Regulations, 1958, is far from satisfactory. During next year a full report upon their defects will be submitted to the Council and thence transmitted to the Ministry. At present it is anticipated that one of the slaughterhouses will close, but that the owner of the other may agree to carry out the necessary works. The following table shows the amount of slaughtering carried out. The meat generally is of excellent quality and condemnation is rare.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep or Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	40	12	2	894	10	—
Number inspected	40	12	2	894	10	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—						
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned ...	1	—	—	19	—	—
Percentage of the number affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.5%	—	—	2.1%	—	—
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis—						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

	Complete Carcases	Part-Carcases and Organs
Beef	1	10 lbs.
Pork	Nil	Nil
Veal	Nil	Nil
Mutton and Lamb	Nil	18 lbs.
Total	1	28 lbs.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no trades registered under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, neither are there any fish frying premises.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

This problem is not encountered in the district, and therefore the Clean Air, Act, 1957, has no effect.

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

This is carried out in the district by the Weights and Measures Department of the County Council, to whose Chief Inspector, Thomas H. Evans, Esq., thanks are due for permission to include the following table :—

Article	No Taken	Genuine	Not Genuine, or Sub-standard
MILK	8	8	—
Butter	1	1	—
Ice Cream	1	1	—
Tinned Tomatoes	1	1	—
Port Wine	1	1	—
Whisky	1	1	—
TOTALS	13	13	—

All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be genuine and free from all prohibited preservatives and colouring matter.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

As has been noticed in previous years, more caravans are making their way into the district during the summer months. By maintaining close co-operation with the Planning Authority it has been possible to secure full control and no un-authorised sites or unauthorised individual caravans are now sited within the district.

The present position is as follows :

No. of Licensed Sites (under 5 caravans)	5
Licences issued for individual caravans	5

SCHOOLS.

Improvements have been carried out to all the schools in the district since the adverse report made in 1954. The one serious exception is still Carmel C.P. School where the position in regard to sanitary accommodation

is most un-hygienic, which comprises of old-fashioned pail closets. The position is also made more serious by the complete lack of water supply, drinking water having to be carried up from Llanrwst with the school meals. The sanitary accommodation at Llanddoget C.P. School also requires attention, but improvement will have to wait until the Council have executed a sewerage scheme for the village.

No. of County Primary Schools	13
No. of Modern Schools	1
No. of Private Schools	1
No. of Visits made	40

WATER SUPPLY.

No. of visits and inspections	351
Samples taken from public supplies	15
Samples taken from private supplies	22
Satisfactory samples from public supplies	14
Unsatisfactory samples from public supplies	1
New connections to Council's main	52
Approved domestic connections from private sources	12

Progress has again been made in relation to water supply, and at long last the Council have been informed that the Llyn Conwy Scheme is to be put out to tender early in 1960. It is hoped that this scheme will pave the way to implementing further housing improvements in the district, both to farms and dwelling houses. Several farms have executed their own water supply schemes during the year, mainly under agricultural grants.

The following indicates the progress of the Council's schemes during the year :—

(a) NEBO and CAPEL GARMON.

This scheme, consisting of the laying of 2,501 linear yards of 3-ins. A.C. Mains, was completed during the year. Being part of the Llyn Conwy Scheme it was prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers—Messrs. Howard Humphreys & Sons, London. It serves a long-felt need and its effect is already seen in the village of Capel Garmon, which only too recently could be compared with the "Deserted Village" of Oliver Goldsmith, but appears now to have obtained a new lease of life, due to the owners of the various properties re-constructing same and taking advantage of the Housing Grants which they had hitherto been denied due to lack of water supply.

(b) LLANGWM EXTENSION.

This scheme of extending the existing village supply was completed during the year, the final cost thereof being £877.

(c) LLANDDOGET.

This scheme, which was subject to an Inquiry last year, met with the approval of the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and work should be commenced thereon early next year. The scheme, being part of the Llyn Conwy Scheme and prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers, is to serve 25 farms and 49 dwelling houses, and is estimated to cost £15,750.

The following tables show the results of samples of mains water taken during the year :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Name of Supply and Date Sampled	Plate Count Yeastrel Agar 2 days at 37 deg. C aerobically per ml.	Probable No. of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37 degrees, C. per 100 ml.	Probable No. of Bact. coli (type 1) per 100 ml.	Remarks
Nebo and Capel Garmon ... 13/4/59	1	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Nebo and Capel Garmon ... 22/3/59	6	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Nebo and Capel Garmon ... 5/5/59	7	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Cerrigydrudion ... 11/5/59	8	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Rhydydan ... 11/5/59	3	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Nebo and Capel Garmon ... 11/5/59	4	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Llangernyw ... 11/5/59	2	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Eglwysbach ... 13/5/59	6	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Nebo, Eglwysbach (Well) ... 11/5/59	14	0	0	This sample was satisfactory.
Cerrigydrudion ... 2/9/59	3	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Pentrefoelas ... 2/9/59	2	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Rhydydan ... 2/9/59	1	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Gwytherin ... 8/9/59	3	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.
Pandy Tudur— Emergency Service ... 28/9/59	62	17	17	Class 4—Unsatisfactory.
Llangernyw— Emergency Supply ... 28/9/59	11	0	0	Class 1—Satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis	Pentrufoelas	Mellincoed	Vespyt Han	Llangeryw	Gwytherin	Llanfihangel G.M.	Pandy Tudur	Eglwysbach	Cerrigydrudion	Nebo and Capel Gwynon
Total solid matter in solution	60.0	120.0	60.0	100.0	80.0	60.0	120.0	80.0	40.0	40
Nitrogen in Nitrates	1.0	1.25	1.0	1.00	1.3	0.38	1.00	0.38	0.2	—
Nitrites	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chlorine in Chlorides	13.0	16.0	10.0	18.0	12.0	10.0	10.0	14.0	11.0	—
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hours at 80° F	0.27	Nil	0.94	0.24	0.2	1.5	0.24	2.27	—	—
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	Organic matter	—	Nil	0.04	0.02	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.02	Nil	Nil	0.01	0.02	—	Nil	0.15	0.01	0.05
Lead, Copper, Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Microscopical examination of the sediment	Nil	Nil	Minute amount	Nil	Small amount	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temporary Hardness	30.0	70.0	25.0	30.0	30.0	2.5	2.1	15.0	Nil	15.0
Permanent Hardness	15.0	35.0	15.0	40.0	Nil	1.0	0.3	Nil	30.0	3.0
pH Value	6.6	6.6	6.2	6.8	7.0	8.2	5.5	6.8	6.2	6.6
pH after Calcium Carbonate	7.0	6.8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Alkalinity to Methyl Orange	30.0	70.0	25.0	30.0	30.0	—	—	—	—	—
Calcium salts as Ca	18.0	42.0	16.0	28.0	12.0	—	—	—	—	—
Magnesium salts as Mg	2.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	1.0	—	—	—	—	—
Lead dissolved in 24 hours	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.2	1.0 (In 48 hours)	—	—	—	—	—
Action on copper in 24 hours	2.2	2.8	2.0	1.6	0.6 (In 48 hours)	—	—	—	—	—

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

This important aspect of the Council's work progressed favourably during the year, such that after completion of the work now in progress and proposed, the Council will practically have reached the end of their work of sewerage the various villages and hamlets. As previously stressed, a sewerage scheme for each village and hamlet is a vital necessity so that the houses may be brought up to modern standards, complete with every amenity. The present policy of the Council, where sewerage schemes have been executed, is to statutorily compel all house owners to connect their properties to the sewer and pay a grant under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936, of one-half of the actual cost of conversion of the existing closet to the water carriage system.

The following indicates the schemes executed, together with those in course of preparation :

(a) YSPYTY IFAN.

This scheme, a joint affair between the Nant Conway Council and the Council, was practically completed during the year. The sewerage of this village will undoubtedly give a new lease of life thereto. The scheme was prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineers—Messrs. Richards and Dumbleton, Birmingham.

(b) LLANGERNYW.

This scheme has received the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and it is hoped that work thereon will be commenced early in 1960. The need for the scheme is great, Llangernyw being one of the three largest villages in the district, and the construction of the scheme will be of great benefit to householders, who, due to the lack of sewerage scheme, are unable to provide their houses with all the standard amenities, and therefore cannot avail themselves of the Housing Grants.

(c) CAPEL GARMON.

Plans for the proper sewerage of this village are in progress by enlargement of the present outfall works, and also providing schemes for the Mountain View and Old Council Houses areas.

The following table gives the statistics for the year, and again Hill Farming and Housing Improvement Grants have contributed to the progress :—

No. of Visits and Inspections	450
No. of Informal Notices	83
No. of Statutory Notices	19
No. of Houses where W.C. installed	34
No. of Houses where bath installed	21
No. of Houses where lavatory basin installed	21
No. of Houses where Belfast sinks and waste drainage installed	28

HOUSING.

The Council were unable to proceed with new proposals for the erection of houses during the year despite every endeavour. They are constantly thwarted by the high building cost in the district which makes for ultimate high rents.

With a view to building houses as economically as possible, a visit was made to the "Unity Houses" which have been erected at Flint. Whilst these houses appear satisfactory from the constructional point of view, the Council were dis-satisfied with their lay-out. In consequence it was decided to proceed provisionally to construct six semi-detached houses—two at Llandoget, two at Capel Garmon and two at Pentrefoelas—subject to a satisfactory tender price.

During the year, work proceeded on the two x 2-bedroomed bungalows and four x 1-bedroomed bungalows at Cerrigydrudion, and these should be completed early next year. The need for these bungalows in this particular village is great, not only for reducing normal housing needs, but also so that some move can be made in the proposed clearance scheme.

Despite the impossibility of building new houses, the closing of unfit houses proceeded apace. Of the 243 unfit houses in the district which were reported in 1955, 110 have now been dealt with as individually unfit under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957. This policy of the Council with regard to unfit houses is undoubtedly wise, despite the qualms sometimes felt regarding de-population—especially when it comes to the matter of closing small holdings. To off-set this, however, some of these unfit houses are ultimately repaired and reconditioned to become satisfactory units of accommodation—in many cases the owner taking advantage of discretionary or standard grants. During the year £2,129 was paid in improvement grants and a further £2,928 promised in discretionary grants, and up to a maximum of £625 in standard grants.

Close co-operation is still maintained with the Ministry of Agriculture so that any house which applies for a grant under the Hill Farming Scheme must ultimately be brought to the same standard demanded under the Housing Acts, 1949-54. It is fortunate that the Council has an area wherein the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Acts apply. Up to the present 258 farmhouses are registered thereunder.

One application only was received for a Certificate of Disrepair under the Housing Act, 1957, and this was granted. It is difficult to understand why tenants are reluctant to apply for these Certificates. In the past low rents hindered owners to improve their properties, but the new Act, whilst allowing for an increase in rent, does demand a certain standard of fitness, and this a right which the tenant should make effort to obtain.

The following statistics were submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for the year :—

Unfit houses closed under Section 16, Housing Act, 1957 7

Unfit houses made fit—

After informal action by the Council 67

After formal notice under the Public Health Acts 24

After formal notices under the Housing Acts —

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The Public Health Laboratory is at Conway, and samples of water, milk and ice cream are sent there for bacteriological examination. Other types of bacteriological examinations are also carried out there to aid in the diagnosis of illness, e.g., food poisoning, scarlet fever, meningitis, etc.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This service is controlled by the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham, but Denbigh, Llanrwst and Llangernyw ambulances are under the jurisdiction of the Ambulance Sub-Station at Colwyn Bay.

There are six ambulances in the Western No. 2 Health Area situated at Denbigh, Ruthin, Llanrwst, Llangernyw and Cerrig-y-Drudion, with one ambulance at each station except at Ruthin, where there are two. Two stations, i.e., Llanrwst and Cerrig-y-Drudion, are manned by voluntary personnel, but at Denbigh, Ruthin and Llangernyw full-time drivers are employed. To supplement the ambulances use is made of local taxi proprietors for the conveyance of sitting cases. Ambulances for the conveyance of infectious cases are sent from the hospitals concerned at Wrexham and Colwyn Bay.

The following is given for the information of the Council, and the numbers refer to cases conveyed by the various ambulances and the mileage covered during the year :—

Name of Ambulance Station	Denbigh	Ruthin	Llanrwst	Llangernyw	Cerrig-y-drudion	Totals
Number of cases	2,129	2,458	74	2,185	81	6,927
Total mileage	30,333	31,989	2,880	26,406	3,286	94,894

SITTING CASE CARS — TAXIS.

No. of Journeys	No. of Cases	Total Mileage
1,185	3,825	58,102

The above figures were given by the County Medical Officer.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

This service is under the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health at Wrexham.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINICS.

These clinics are held as follows and are staffed from the Gobowen Orthopaedic Hospital :—

Name of Clinic	Clinic Held	Surgeons attend
Colwyn Bay	Alternate Thursdays.	Every 3 months.
Bala	2nd and 4th Tuesday afternoons each month.	Every 3 months.
Llanrwst	2nd and 4th Tuesday mornings each month.	Every 3 months.

Clinics are also held at hospitals in Rhyl, Colwyn Bay and Llandudno.

Patients from the rural district attend whichever clinic is the most convenient.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

These clinics are held at hospitals in Llandudno, Wrexham, Chester, Bangor and St. Asaph.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINICS.

Patients attend the Chest Clinics held weekly at Llandudno, Rhyl and Denbigh, or by appointment at Grosvenor Road, Wrexham.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Mothers take their babies to one of the under-mentioned clinics which serve the rural district and the attendance at these clinics during the year was as follows :

	Under 1 year		1—5 years		Total V'sits	Clinic Held
	1st Visits	Re-v'sits	1—2 years	2—5 years		
Llanrwst	108	791	359	391	1649	Every Tuesday afternoon
Llangernyw	6	28	32	47	113	Last Thursday afternoon each month.
Cerrigydrudion ...	7	17	8	5	37	First Friday morning each month.
*Glan Conway ...	42	254	142	167	605	Alternate Monday after- noons each month.

* This Clinic is in Aled Rural District.

The above figures, which were given by the County Medical Officer, refer to the clinic attendances for various areas and not for children from Hiraethog Rural District only.

TRANSPORT TO CLINICS.

The number taking advantage of transport to clinics is shown in the following figures :—

	No. of mothers	No. of babies
From Eglwysbach to Glan Conway	56	74
From Pandy Tudur and Gwytherin to Llangernyw ...	44	64
From Capel Garmon and Nebo to Llanrwst	13	17

These figures were given by the County Medical Officer.

No transport is arranged to bring mothers and babies to Cerrigydrudion Clinic and this accounts for the low attendance figures. It is not possible to arrange another time for the clinic as buses are inconvenient or non-existent whichever day is chosen. Poliomyelitis vaccination was carried out during some of the clinic sessions.

DENTAL CLINICS.

This clinic is held once a month at the Clinic, Watling Street, Llanrwst, and cases are referred from the Infant Welfare Clinics and from the general practitioners. No cases were treated during the year.

NURSING SERVICES

The following are the names and addresses of the nursing staff serving the district :—

Health Visitors—

Mrs. M. R. Roberts, Hendre Uchaf, Llangwm, Corwen. Tel. No. Cerrig 292.

Miss C. J. Davies and Miss Roberts, 40 Well Street, Ruthin. Tel. No. Ruthin 200.

Miss E. Foulkes, The Clinic, Watling Street, Llanrwst. Tel. No. Llanrwst 345.

Miss Foulkes also covers the Llanrwst Urban District, and Miss Davies and Miss Roberts cover Ruthin Borough and part of Ruthin Rural District. Mrs. Roberts relieves the District Nurse at Cerrig-y-Drudion during off-duty periods.

Tuberculosis Health Visitor—

Miss M. Thomas, 21 Severn Road, Colwyn Bay. She also covers the western half of the county.

District Nurses—

Nurse Munro, Cae Llwyd, Cerrig-y-Drudion. Tel. No. Cerrig-y-Drudion 248.

Nurse Murphy, Glascoed, Llangernyw, Abergel. Tel. No. Llangernyw 207.

Nurse Llewelyn, Maesteg, Station Road, Llanrwst. Tel. No. Llanrwst 140.

Nurse Ellwood, Libbylyn, Penrhyd Hall, Talycafn. Tel. No. Tynygroes 310.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The number of domestic helps employed during the year was 4.

The number of cases where domestic help was provided was as follows :

Chronic Sick and Aged 5



